

Abstract 643

TITLE: HIV Test Surveillance Trends in Canada

AUTHORS: Sutherland, J; Dalloo, A; Cameron, N; Wilk, T, Archibald, C; Sutherland, D
(Health Canada, Canada)

ISSUE: To characterize positive HIV test reporting trends in Canada by exposure category, age and year of test, and to contrast trends in HIV reporting to a declining number of AIDS case reports and AIDS death reports.

SETTING: Confidential, non-nominal positive HIV test report data and AIDS case report data are provided to the Laboratory Center for Disease Control (LCDC), Canada, by all provinces and territories and represent all newly determined positive HIV individuals in Canada.

PROJECT: Data is continually reported to LCDC and analyzed by year of positive test report.

RESULTS: There were 2,301 positive HIV test reports reported to LCDC for 1998, and for 1997 there were 2,558. In 1996, 2,783 positive HIV tests were reported from all provinces and territories in Canada. The proportion of positive HIV reports (of all adult positive HIV reports for which exposure category and age were known) attributable to Injection Drug Users (IDUs) has increased from 9.1% during 1985-94 to 29.9% in 1995 and 33.6% in 1997. In contrast, Men having Sex with Men (MSM) accounted for 74.7% of reports for which exposure category was indicated during 1985-94 as compared to 44.1% in 1995 and 36.6% in 1997.

LESSONS LEARNED: New positive HIV test report data indicates the number of new positive test reports is stable. The emphasis of the HIV epidemics in Canada has shifted from MSM to injection drug users and men who have sex with men (IDU/MSM). In Canada, AIDS case reports continue to decline, but relative increases in AIDS case reports are seen among women and IDUs.

PRESENTER CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Jason Sutherland

Address: Brooke Claxton Bldg. Room 0108B, Tunney's Pasture, A/L: 0900B1
Ottawa, Ontario K1A0I2

Telephone: (613) 954-1320

Fax: (613) 954-5414

E-mail: jason_sutherland@hc-sc.gc.ca